Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) A method for concentration and purification of a nucleic acid using electrophoresis, said method comprising:

adding a ~~wherein~~ cationic surfactant ~~is added~~ to a sample that contains ~~containing~~ a nucleic acid [[so as]] and contains a substance that is to be separated from said nucleic acid, wherein said cationic surfactant is added in an amount sufficient to adjust the electric charge of said substance so that said charge is more positive than before the adjustment ~~an impurity in the sample~~, and

~~then the sample is placed in an electric field for electrophoresis so as~~ electrophoresing said sample to concentrate and purify the nucleic acid, wherein, as a result of said electrophoresing in the presence of said cationic surfactant, said substance ~~when the sample is placed in the electric field, the~~ ~~impurity~~ migrates further in a direction opposite to [[the]] said nucleic acid than it does without the presence of said cationic surfactant.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for concentration and purification of a nucleic acid using electrophoresis, said method comprising:

adding a ~~wherein~~ cationic surfactant and a nonionic surfactant ~~are added~~ to a sample that contains ~~containing~~ a nucleic acid [[so as]] and contains a substance that is to be separated from said nucleic acid, wherein said cationic surfactant is added in an amount sufficient to adjust the electric charge of said substance so that said charge is more positive than before the adjustment ~~an impurity in the sample~~, and

~~then the sample is placed in an electric field for electrophoresis so as~~

electrophoresing said sample to concentrate and purify the nucleic acid, wherein, as a result of said electrophoresing in the presence of said cationic and nonionic surfactants, said substance ~~when the sample is placed in the electric field, the impurity~~ migrates further in a direction opposite to [[the]] said nucleic acid than it does without the presence of said cationic and nonionic surfactants.

4. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method for concentration and purification of a nucleic acid as set forth in claim 3, wherein [[the]] said cationic surfactant adsorbs said substance other than [[the]] said nucleic acid so as to adjust the electric charge of [[the]] said substance, and the adsorption of [[the]] said substance to [[the]] said cationic surfactant is adjusted by adjusting an amount of [[the]] said added nonionic surfactant.

Claims 5-10 (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method for concentration and purification of a nucleic acid as set forth in claim 2, wherein [[the]] said substance other than the nucleic acid ~~impurity~~ is adsorbed by [[the]] said cationic surfactant so as to adjust the electric charge of said substance ~~the impurity~~.

12. (New) The method for concentration and purification of a nucleic acid as set forth in claim 2, wherein the electric field is applied to said sample for a first time period at a first voltage, thereby removing excessive ions from said sample, and then the electric filed is applied to said sample for a second time period at a second voltage, whereby said nucleic acid is concentrated and purified.

13. (New) The method for concentration and purification of a nucleic acid as set forth in claim 4, wherein the adsorption of said substance other than said nucleic acid to said cationic surfactant is adjusted by said nonionic surfactant adsorbing to the substance.